

Kings Canyon CCC Backcountry Tail Crew
June 2013 Overview
Crew Supervisor: Tessa d'Uesseau

The month of June found the Kings Canyon crew finishing up its front country projects and prepping for our move into the backcountry on July 1st. Our main focus was the completion of the "Universal Access Trail" from Roads End to Zumwalt Meadow, which is now open to the public! We also spent a couple days working with an NPS crew on a re-route of the Panorama Point Trail, improving the grade for wheelchair accessibility and maintaining the Copper Creek & Hotel Lewis Trails.

We continued our evening classes with community meetings each week facilitated by corpsmembers Alia Ledford, Mel Ledbury, Kelsey Kuhn and Kyle Kenneally. We attended the Sequoia/ Kings Canyon "Safety Stand Down" at Giant Grove, where park service staff covered vehicle safety, fire safety, hazardous materials and wildlife protection. The afternoon session presentations included topics from the Sequoia Natural History Association, Interpretive rangers, USGS, Sequoia Community Corps and a member of different departments of Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park. Wilderness Coordinator for Sequoia/Kings Canyon, Alison Steiner, visited the crew and talked about the park focus on the "Wilderness Set." Ann Huber stopped by for an evening presentation on "Plant Phrenology".

AmeriCorps Program Associates Deidra and Keith came by and spent a day on the trail with the crew and participated in an evening game of whiffle ball! Other classes included a two-day rock class by Cameron Aveson (NPS), a class on the Backcountry Program's AC Performance Measures, a Geological Class (Sean Moffitt), a Knot Tying Class (Nick Nelson), Nonviolent Communication Class (Sandy Rose), a Strength and Strengthening Class (Sandy Rose), a Body Awareness Class (Alia Ledford), Safety meetings and weekend plannings. The crew also organized a number of different committees that will be planning special events for the remainder of the season.

The weekends have been spent with the crew backpacking around as much of the park as they can reach in two days. They spent their weekends at Fry Paw Meadows, Grizzly Lake, Paradise, Copper Creek, Granite Basin, Tent Meadows, and Sphinx Camp.

Other:

Happy Birthday to Crew Members:

Dan Arce- 23 years old

Ivonne Del Rio- 23 years old

Alia Ledford- 24 years old

Jeff Burnor- 25 years old

Thank you to all our visitors: Max Maly; Andi Anderson; Samielle Foltz; Agnes Vianzon; Roads End Rangers; Campground Host, Chelsea Suiland; Karlson Hubbard, and the “NPS Volleyball Team”!

Mission Statement:

Our objective is to foster a lifelong love of and strive to conserve wilderness within ourselves and every single person who walks our trails.